

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Replace the claims with the following rewritten listing.

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-layer seat pad for a cyclist garment, comprising:
an inner layer for contacting the cyclist;
an outer layer for affixing to the garment; and
a compressible, resilient middle layer disposed between the outer and inner layers;
wherein the inner layer and/or the middle layer delimits an outer perimeter of the
seat pad; ~~and~~

wherein the outer layer covers less than all of the inner layer so as to be disposed
out of contact with a portion of the outer perimeter; and

wherein the middle layer is fixed to at least one of the inner and outer layers such
that the middle layer is immovable relative to the respective inner and outer layer.

2. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 1, wherein the outer
layer includes a shape and a size different than a shape and a size of the inner layer such
that the outer layer does not complement the inner layer.

3. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 2, wherein the outer
layer includes a width less than a width of the inner layer.

4. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 2, wherein the outer
layer includes a length less than a length of the inner layer.

5. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 1, wherein the inner
layer includes a thigh portion for contacting a thigh area of the cyclist and wherein the
outer layer does not cover the thigh portion of the inner layer such that the thigh portion is
affixed directly to the garment.

6. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 1, wherein the inner
layer comprises a rear portion and an opposite front portion having a width less than that of

the rear portion, the rear portion for contacting a buttocks region of the cyclist and the front portion for contacting a crotch and lower abdominal region of the cyclist.

7. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 6, wherein the outer layer is a generally planar, elongate member which does not complement a size and/or shape of the inner layer.

8. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of perforations formed through the seat pad so as to traverse through the inner, middle, and outer layers.

9. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 8, wherein the perforations each comprise a recess inset into a thickness of the seat pad and a hole formed through the seat pad at the recess.

10. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 9, wherein the recess comprises a portion of the inner, middle, and outer layers being permanently compressed.

11. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 9, wherein the recesses comprise first recesses disposed at the inner layer and second recesses disposed at the outer layer, the first and second recesses being disposed oppositely and correspondingly such that the holes traverse through the seat pad from the first recesses to the second recesses.

12. (Currently Amended) The multi-layer seat pad of claim ~~8~~1, wherein the middle layer delimits an outer perimeter of the seat pad. ~~the perforations are formed through the seat pad in an area corresponding to a buttocks region of the cyclist.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 8, wherein the perforations are formed through the seat pad in an area corresponding to at least one of a buttocks region and a crotch and a lower abdominal region of the cyclist.

14. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 1, wherein the inner and outer layers comprise a woven cloth-like material and the middle layer comprises a foam material including a plurality of foam layers, one of the foam layers extending beyond the outer layer to cover substantially all of the inner layer.

15. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 1, wherein the inner, middle, and outer layers are fixed together such that the seat pad comprises a generally planar elongated member having a front end and an opposing rear end, the rear end being wider than the front end.

16. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 15, further comprising:

a central area for contacting a buttocks and a crotch of the cyclist, the central area extending from the rear end towards the front end of the seat pad and being disposed centrally about a longitudinal axis of the seat pad; and

an outer area for contacting an upper thigh of the cyclist, the outer area being disposed around the central area.

17 (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 16, wherein the central area includes a thickness greater than a thickness of the outer area, and the outer layer extends across an entirety of the central area and the outer layer extends across only a portion of the outer area.

18. (Previously Presented) The multi-layer seat pad of claim 1, further comprising a permanently compressed area of the inner, middle, and outer layers formed as a line for providing flexibility to the seat pad.

19. (Previously Presented) The multi-layered seat pad of claim 1, wherein the outer layer includes a surface area of approximately 50-90% of a surface area of the inner layer.

20. (Previously Presented) The multi-layered seat pad of claim 1, wherein the outer layer includes a surface area of approximately 60-80% of a surface area of the inner layer.

21. (Previously Presented) The multi-layered seat pad of claim 1, wherein the outer layer includes a surface area of approximately 70-80% of a surface area of the inner layer.

22. (Previously Presented) The multi-layered seat pad of claim 1, wherein the outer layer includes a surface area of approximately 75% of a surface area of the inner layer.

23. (Currently Amended) A cycling garment, comprising:
a crotch portion to be worn proximate a crotch area of a cyclist; and
a multi-layer seat pad disposed at the crotch portion for engaging the crotch area of the cyclist, the seat pad including an inner layer for contacting the cyclist, an outer layer for affixing to the garment, and a compressible, resilient middle layer disposed between the outer and inner layers, wherein the inner layer and/or the middle layer delimits an outer perimeter of the seat pad, and wherein the outer layer covers less than all of the inner layer so as to be disposed out of contact with a portion of the outer perimeter;
wherein the middle layer is fixed to at least one of the inner and outer layers such that the middle layer is immovable relative to the respective inner and outer layer.

24. (Previously Presented) The cyclist garment of claim 23, wherein the garment comprises cycling pants or shorts and wherein the inner layer comprises an upper thigh

portion for contacting an upper thigh area of a cyclist, the outer layer being shaped and sized so as not to be disposed on the upper thigh portion such that the upper thigh portion affixes directly to the garment.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a multi-layer seat pad for a cyclist garment, comprising:

forming an inner layer for contacting the cyclist;

forming a compressible, resilient middle layer;

affixing the middle layer on the inner layer;

delimiting an outer perimeter of the seat pad with the inner layer and/or the middle layer;

forming an outer layer for affixing to the garment;

affixing the outer layer on the inner layer over the middle layer such that the outer layer covers less than all of the inner layer and such that the outer layer is disposed out of contact with a portion of the outer perimeter; and

fixing the middle layer to at least one of the inner and outer layers such that the middle layer is immovable relative to the respective inner and outer layer.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a multi-layer seat pad for a cyclist garment of claim 25, further comprising forming a plurality of perforations through the seat pad such that each perforation traverse through the inner, middle, and outer layers.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a multi-layer seat pad for a cyclist garment of claim 26, wherein the forming of the perforations comprises forming permanently compressed areas on the seat pad and then punching a hole through the seat pad at the permanently compressed area.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a multi-layer seat pad for a cyclist garment of claim 25, further comprising forming at least one thinned hinge line on the seat pad to provide flexibility thereto.

29. (Currently Amended) A seat pad for a cyclist garment, comprising:
an inner layer for contacting a cyclist; and
a compressible, resilient layer bonded to the inner layer;
wherein the inner layer delimits an outer perimeter of the seat pad; and
wherein the compressible resilient layer covers less than all of the inner layer so as to be disposed out of contact with a portion of the outer perimeter and wherein the bonded inner layer and compressible, resilient layer are fixed to the cyclist garment; and
wherein the compressible, resilient layer is fixed to the inner such that the compressible, resilient layer is immovable relative to the inner layer.

30. (Previously Presented) The seat pad of claim 29, further comprising ventilation holes extending through the seat pad, the holes being inset into a surface of the seat pad.

31. (Previously Presented) The seat pad of claim 29, wherein the inner layer includes upper thigh portions for contacting a thigh of the cyclist, the compressible, resilient layer being shaped and sized so as not to be disposed on the upper thigh portions such that the upper thigh portions affix directly to the garment.

32. (Previously Presented) The multi-layered seat pad of claim 29, further comprising an outer layer adjacent to the compressible, resilient layer, wherein the outer layer includes a surface area of approximately 50-90% of a surface area of the inner layer.

33. (Previously Presented) The multi-layered seat pad of claim 29, further comprising an outer layer adjacent to the compressible, resilient layer, wherein the outer layer includes a surface area of approximately 60-80% of a surface area of the inner layer.

34. (Previously Presented) The multi-layered seat pad of claim 29, further comprising an outer layer adjacent to the compressible, resilient layer, wherein the outer layer includes a surface area of approximately 70-80% of a surface area of the inner layer.

35. (Previously Presented) The multi-layered seat pad of claim 29, further comprising an outer layer adjacent to the compressible, resilient layer, wherein the outer layer includes a surface area of approximately 75% of a surface area of the inner layer.

36. (Currently Amended) A seat pad for a cyclist garment, comprising:
a first side;
an opposing second side; and
perforations formed through the seat pad so as to traverse from the first side to the second side;
wherein the first side delimits an outer perimeter of the seat pad and the second side covers less than all of the first side so as to be disposed out of contact with a portion of the outer perimeter; and
wherein a middle layer is fixed to at least one of the first and second sides such that the middle layer is immovable relative to the respective first and second sides.

37. (Previously Presented) The seat pad of claim 36, wherein the perforations each comprise a recess inset into at least one of the first and second sides of the seat pad and a hole formed through the seat pad at the recess.

38. (Previously Presented) The seat pad of claim 37, wherein the recess comprises a permanently compressed portion of the seat pad.

39. (Previously Presented) The seat pad of claim 36, wherein the perforations comprise first recesses disposed at the first side and second recesses disposed at the second